October 2016 Newsletter





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Upcoming Events

2016 Crime & Gang Prevention Summit

Oct 15, 8:30 am-2 pm San Jose City College 2100 Moorpark Avenue

Human Trafficking Awareness Workshop Oct 17, 5:30 - 7:30 pm City Council Chambers

200 E. Santa Clara Street

Si desea leer este boletín en Español, por favor envíenos un email a district5@sanjoseca.gov

Dear Neighbor,

School is in full swing, the leaves are beginning to change, and Fall has begun. My office has been very busy this past month celebrating Mexican Heritage Month with our annual Flag Raising Ceremony, welcoming a dignitary, the Mayor of Tuxpan, Mexico, and honoring the month with a proclamation at the September 20th City Council meeting. I wrapped up the month of celebration by swearing in Robert Cruz as the President of the National Association of Hispanic Realtors of Silicon Valley, whose mission is to increase home ownership in the Hispanic community.

This past month the Foundation for Hispanic Education hosted my second informational briefing for our <u>Participatory Budgeting</u> meeting. If your East San José neighborhood association or group would like to learn how we are letting the community decide to spend \$100,000, please <u>let us know</u>. Our next meeting is October 25th at 6 p.m. at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School. This is a community decision, it is imperative that a broad swath of the community join in on this process to fund projects in our district.

You have an opportunity to provide input to the expansion of parks and recreation in San Jose. San José's Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) Department is excited to begin the <u>Greenprint Update</u>. The Greenprint is a strategic plan that guides the future expansion of San José's parks, recreation facilities and community services. We updated the Greenprint most recently in 2009. The 2009 update supported the development of new neighborhood parks, trails, and many other facilities and amenities. You can weigh in on park development answering the <u>interactive survey</u>. PRNS will also be

<u>19th Annual Día de los</u> Muertos

Oct 23, 11 am-3:30 pm Cesar Chavez Park Downtown San Jose

S. 31st St Park Community Meeting

October 26, 6 pm Mexican Heritage Plaza 1700 Alum Rock Avenue

Parks & Recreation Commission S. 31st St Park Meeting

November 2, 5:30 pm San Jose City Hall Wing Rooms 118 & 119 200 E. Santa Clara Street

City Council Meeting S. 31st St Park

November 8, 1:30 pm San Jose City Hall Council Chambers 200 E. Santa Clara Street

Announcements

<u>Latinos in Technology</u> Scholarship

100 scholarships available, up to \$30,000 Deadline December 7th

Our City Forest is Hiring

Pays a living stipend and an education awarded upon completion

Homework Club

Alum Rock Library Every Tuesday and Wednesday in October

Resume & Job Search Help

Alum Rock Library Every Thursday through December 8th

Basic Computer Workshop

Alum Rock Library Every Saturday through December 3rd

Join Our Mailing List!

Baltazar's Business Corner

The Alum Rock corridor has been impacted by the BRT construction so its important that we continue to support our local merchants. Go try what many say is the best *tortas*

holding many community meetings, so look for the dates soon.

One of the top issues I have worked on since I took office has been illegal dumping. We have helped many community cleanups bringing together resources from our City, County and the State. To help curb illegal dumping, the City Council passed a new policy that allows residents the opportunity to request FREE large item pickups. Please tell your friends and family in San Jose about this great program to reduce dumping in our neighborhoods and keep our community clean.

No one likes sitting in traffic, it not only wastes time but idle vehicles pollute our air. Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority along with California Department of Transportation is preparing the <u>I-280 Corridor Study</u> to develop a strategic plan to upgrade this freeway system.

As we move swiftly towards the holidays, many of our community members struggle to put healthy food on the table. Which is why I wanted to highlight an innovate program that connects restaurants to charities that serve needy communities. Click here to learn more about Waste No Food and its successes in Santa Clara County.

The days are ticking down to one of those most historic elections in our era. The ballot will be filled with numerous propositions that can make it difficult to keep track of them all. Which is why I want to invite you to join KQED and SIREN for <u>Ballots and Brews</u> on October 12 at the School for Arts and Culture in the Mexican Heritage Plaza. This educational non-partisan event that will seek to inform you on the many items that will be before you on the ballot. Ballots and Brews, is a fun and informative voter party that will help unravel the state's 17 propositions. There will be an election pub quiz, prizes, refreshments and, most importantly, lively conversations about politics and the issues of our times. And at the same time and place, you will also have a chance to head from the candidates for the Alum Rock School Board. If you're interested in attending, please contact Norma Rodriguez via <u>email</u> or call her at 619-957-3557.

As Halloween is creeping up I wanted to ensure our community celebrates <u>safely</u>. My office will be handing out glow sticks to help make trick-or-treating children visible to any neighborhood association, community center or library who's interested. Please contact <u>my office</u>, to let us know how many you want. There are a number of <u>Halloween and Día de los Muertos</u> events in East San José and throughout the City. And, finally, Mayfair Community Center is hosting a haunted house starting <u>Oct 27</u> through Oct 29.

I hope you all have a wonderful October, a spooky Halloween, and a meaningful Día de los Muertos!

ahogadas in San José. Located on 152 o Alum Rock Ave, San Jose, CA 95116, Tortas Ahogadas <u>Tradicion Tapatia</u> brings you the flavors of Guadalajara. Open from 10 am to 5 pm, 7 days a week. Bring family, friends and enjoy great food at an affordable price! And the best thing about it is you will be supporting the small businesses of your Alum Rock corridor!







Councilmember/*Concejal*, Magdalena Carrasco

Email Your Councilmember

OPINIONS NEEDED FOR SAN JOSE I-280 CORRIDOR

If you're a bicyclist, a bus rider, a pedestrian or motorist who frequents the areas in and around the Interstate 280 corridor in Santa Clara County, transit agencies as well as South Bay cities want to hear from you. Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority along with California Department of Transportation is preparing the I-280 Corridor Study to develop a strategic plan to upgrade this freeway system.



The purpose of the study is to develop a strategic plan for the 22-mile portion of I-280 corridor located in Santa Clara County. The study limits extend from the US 101/I-280/ I-680 interchange in San Jose to the San Mateo County line near Palo Alto. The study will identify key improvements for all modes of transportation that promote mobility and connectivity, safety and security, support economic vitality and stability. All are invited to give insight about what sort of improvements you would like to see along the I-280 corridor by participating in a survey.

For more information, visit the direct link on the <u>VTA website</u>. The survey will be open for responses until October 22, 2016. If you have comments or questions about the I-280 Corridor Study, please call VTA's Community Outreach Department at (408) 321-2330, or e-mail at <u>community.outreach@vta.org</u>.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

We had another successful Participatory Budgeting event at the Foundation for Hispanic Education Campus. Osvaldo Ruelas from the Foundation for Hispanic Education Campus was an incredible host providing everything we needed. We were excited to see new faces and motivated people that had not been involved with us before.

People left passionate and informed to get their proposals started. We will continue to do outreach at neighborhood association meetings, school PTO's, community coffee hours, social media postings and anything else that comes up!

We will be having our next meeting at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School October 25th 6:00 P.M.



MEXICAN FLAG RAISING

On a nice warm Friday, September 16, Councilmember Raul Peralez and I hosted the Annual Mexican Flag Raising ceremony here at City Hall. We raised the flag to honor Mexican Independence, to commemorate the many contributions that Mexican-Americans have made to San José, and to hear of the significance of las Fiestas Patrias all across the world from our the Honorable Mexican Consul Mauricio Toussaint. It truly was a special day, in a city that prides itself on our enriching cultural diversity.



In addition to the dozens of community leaders who came to this special event, we had folklorico and Soga performances, we danced cumbias to local music legends Suenatron in the Rotunda, and Mezcal Restaurant provided traditional Oaxacaño appetizers. It was great to see so many residents, of Mexican and non-Mexican descent, dancing the afternoon away.

Que viva Mexico! See you all next year!

FREE LARGE ITEM PICKUPS

Residents have the opportunity to request FREE curbside large item pickups. Single family homes are allowed up to TWO three-item pickups (total of 6 items) and multi-family homes are allowed unlimited curbside pickups! This is the perfect opportunity for residents to get rid of large bulky items such as mattresses, furniture, refrigerators, etc. All pickups must be arranged through California Waste Solutions directly by calling (408) 213-7800 or by visiting California Waste Solutions.



Apartments & Condos

Apartment and condominium residents with communal garbage dumpster service can contact their property managers at California Waste Solutions directly to arrange for free large item collections.

Businesses, too, can arrange for large item collection online.

Recycling your large items keeps them out of the landfill and helps San José achieve its Zero Waste goal and keeps our neighborhoods clean.

LET'S PREVENT FOOD WASTE

Did you know that nearly 40% of food in the U.S. goes to waste each year?



Did you also know that, on average, 1 in 6 people in the United States don't know where their next meal is going to come from?

In Santa Clara County alone, over 100,000 people face food insecurity. Waste No Food is an app that gives a platform for restaurants to donate excess food to qualified charities that serve needy communities. If we, as a country, wasted 5% less food it would be enough to feed 4 million Americans. If we wasted 15% less food, it would be enough to feed 25 million people. This app is great for restaurants as well as charities to help get food to people that need it most.

If you are in the food service industry and want to donate it is very simple. You can sign up and post when excess food is available. Then qualified charities who have been vetted by Waste No Food, can claim the food. The charities are responsible for the picking up and handling the food. Food donors are protected under Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act, which protects food donors from being liable for the quality of the food.

Do you run a food pantry? If you do, this app gives you access to excess food. Create an account, specify what type of food you want/need and narrows down the places that have offered their excess food. Finally, you would claim the excess food of which "you" would be responsible for picking up.

HALLOWEEN - LET'S ALL BE SAFE AND HAVE FUN!

It's October and that means Halloween is around the corner! This is a fun time for children, who can dress up in costumes, enjoy parties, and eat yummy treats. These celebrations also provide a chance to give out healthy snacks, get physical activity, and focus on safety.

Check out these tips to help make the festivities fun and safe for trick-or-treaters and party guests:

- Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
- Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.
- Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat. Sugar is yummy and fun, but too much isn't good for anyone.
- Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you. Always WALK, not run, from house to house
- Look both ways before crossing the street and use established crosswalks whenever possible.
- Only walk on sidewalks when possible, or on the far side of the road facing traffic to stay safe.
- Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.
- Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.
- Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Only visit well-lit houses. Never accept rides from strangers.
- Never walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

HALLOWEEN FUN IN OCTOBER!

If you're looking for Halloween fun besides trick-or-treating, check out these East San Jose Halloween-themed activities:

- Mayfair Community Center <u>Haunted House</u>:
 - o for the whole family Oct 27, 5 6PM
 - o for ages 12 and older Oct 27 29, times vary
- Alum Rock Library:
 - Oct 29, 1 PM Spooky Storybook Dance Party
 - Oct 31, 3 PM Books for Treats
 - Oct 31, 3 5 PM Halloween: Creepy Creatures
- Hillview Library:
 - Oct 27, 3 PM <u>Halloween Tea Lights for Teens</u>
 - Oct 28, 3 -4:30 PM Halloween Celebration!
 - Oct 29, 2 PM Halloween: Creepy Creatures
 - o Oct 31, 3:30 PM Día de los Muertos
- School of Arts & Culture at the Mexican Heritage Plaza:
 - Oct 13-23 Macario by Teatro Vision
 - Oct 13 Nov 1 Altar Exhibit
 - Oct 30, 12 8 PM La Ultima Parada | For Tickets
- San Jose at large:
 - Oct 20, 6:30 9 PM 10th Annual Art of Remembrance Altar Opening | Dr. Martin Luther King Library, 5th Floor
 - Oct 21, 6 PM <u>Día de Muertos Circle of Remembrance and Celebration</u> | Silver Creek High School -3434 Silver Creek Rd
 - o Oct 23, 11 AM 3:30 PM 19th Annual Día de los Muertos 2016
 - o Oct 29, 11 5 PM Día de los Muertos Community Day at San Jose Museum of Art
 - Oct 30, 12 4 PM Día de los Muertos Community Day at Children's Discovery Museum
 - Nov 1, 4 7 PM Día de los Muertos altar exhibit and opening
 - Nov 2, 6 9 PM Calpulli Tonalehqueh Evening Celebration

